of uniform. For meeting the requirement of residential accommodation, construction of a housing colony for nurses at Srinivaspuri, New Delhi has been entrusted to the Hospital Services Consultancy Corporation Ltd., a Government of India undertaking. Career progression and staffing pattern of Government employees including nurses are governed by Government rules.

[English]

Indira Awas Yojana

5747. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the State Government of Andhra Pradesh has forwarded a proposal to get Rs. 2500 crores for 12 fluoride affected Districts and Rs. 242 crores for construction of 1.5 lakhs houses under the Indira Awas Yojana;

(b) if so, whether after Review meeting with the State Panchayat Raj Minister and the A.P. Government the Union Minister had examined the issue;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the action taken/being taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA) : (a) to (d) The information is being collected from the State Government and shall be laid on the Table of the House.

Expansion of Vishwabharti

5748. SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any specific proposal was received from Vishwabharti for its expansion and development during the Seventh and Eighth Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the amount allocated and utilised for the purpose; and

(e) the progress made in expansion of Vishwabharti?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA) : (a) to (c) A proposal for establishment of 'VISVASIA', a Centre for the study of Asian Civilisations, was received from Visva-Bharati, Santiniketan, during January, 1996. As the proposal was silent about the specific aspects of the proposed Institute and the requirement of funds for the project, Visva-Bharati was advised to have a detailed project report prepared to enable the Government to take further action in the matter. A blue print of the project report envisaging an estimated expenditure of Rs. 35.00 crore during Phase-I, coterminous with the 9th Plan period, has been received by the Government only on 24th April, 1997. No assistance for the project could, therefore, the allocated during the 8th Plan.

Import of AIDS Drugs

5749. SHRI NAMDEO DIWATHE : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item captioned "Import of AIDS drugs not allowed" appearing in the Sunday Observer dated March 3, 1997;

(b) if so, the facts of the matter reported therein; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI R.L. JALAPPA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Lamuvidine and Saquinavir are 'new drugs' which require safety and efficacy studies to be conducted in the country before registration as per Schedule 'Y' of Drugs and Cosmetic Act, 1948 and Rules thereunder. Import of these drugs is allowed on personal licence issued on the basis of prescription of the doctor AZT is available within the Country.

Drinking Water Facility in M.P. and Gujarat

5750. SHRI VISHVESHWAR BHAGAT :
SHRI MAHESH KUMAR M. KANODIA :

Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the existing facilities provided for supply of drinking water in rural areas and prominent cities in Madhya Pradesh and Gujarat are inadequate;

(b) if so, whether any proposals have been received in this regard from the Government of Madhya Pradesh and Gujarat; and

(c) if so, the steps taken or proposal of be taken for providing funds for this purpose particularly for rural areas, details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Schemes for full coverage of not covered (NC) and partially covered (PC) habitations in rural areas are approved by the States under powers delegated to them. Central assistance of Rs. 9958.71 lakhs and Rs. 5703.60 lakh has been released to the State Government of Madhya Pradesh and Gujarat respectively under the Accelerated Water Supply Programme during 1996-97 and 1997-98 so far.

The information in regard to the proposal for Urban Areas is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

Appointment of Teachers

5751. SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether his attention has been drawn to the news item captioned "Shikshakon Ki niyukti ki prakriya sandehaspad", appearing in the 'Jansatta' Delhi edition dated, March 4, 1997;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The News item refers to issues such as recruitment of Post Graduate Teachers centrally and cut off marks for different regions, etc.

(c) Recruitment of teachers in Kendriya Vidyalaya is made in accordance with rules and procedure prescribed for the purpose.

[English]

Incentives for Small Family

5752. SHRI VIJAY PATEL : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to give incentives to Government employees observing two children norm; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI R.L. JALAPPA): (a) and (b) A set of incentives, as follows, is already in operation for Central Government employees (within the specified age limits) having one, two or three children, who or their spouse undergoes sterilisation :-

(i) Special increment in the form of personal pay not to be absorbed in future increases of pay;

(ii) ½% rebate in rate of interest on House Building Advance; and

(iii) Special Casual Leave for undergoing sterilisation/ IUD insertion.

Institute for Inland Water Transport

5753. SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to setup a Training Institute for personnel working in the field of Inland Water Transport in Kerala;

(b) if so, the details with locations thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) to (c) A proposal to set up one training Institute at Thevara (Kochi) for training of personnel working in IWT sector received from Government of Kerala is under consideration.

World Bank AID

5754. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the progress of World Bank aid Rs. 313.71 crore sodic land reclamation Pilot Project in U.P. is very tardy as on day;

(b) while it is also a fact that this slow progress of the sodic land reclamation project has blocked World Bank aid for another comprehensive project in U.P.;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) steps being taken to step up progress of the Pilot Project ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA) : (a) No, Sir. Upto December, 1996, an area of 20,603 hectares has been reclaimed against a